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Attorney Docket No. D/A3021

CLOSED LOOP CONTROL OF NIP PRESSURE IN A FUSER SYSTEM

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

10739027
[0001] Reference is made to copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. *now US Patent No. 6,819,890*
~~XXXXXX,XXX~~ (Attorney Docket No. ~~D/A2574~~) entitled "Closed Loop Control Of NIP Width In A Fuser System", filed on December 19, 2003 by Donald M. Bott et al., is hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

[0002] This invention relates to a fuser system that includes a closed loop control that controls a fuser's nip pressure.

[0003] In the art of xerography or other similar image reproducing arts, a latent electrostatic image is formed on a charge-retentive surface, i.e., a photoconductor or photoreceptor. To form an image on the charge-retentive surface, the surface is first provided with a uniform charge after which it is exposed to a light or other appropriate image of an original document to be reproduced. The latent electrostatic image thus formed is subsequently rendered visible by applying any one of numerous toners specifically designed for this purpose.

[0004] It should be understood that for the purposes of the present invention, the latent electrostatic image may be formed by means other than by the exposure of an electrostatically charged photosensitive member to a light image of an original document. For example, the latent electrostatic image may be generated from information electronically stored or generated, and this information in digital form may